



William Byrd
PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM 1 2024

ASPIRE



CURIOUS



RESILIENT



KIND & RESPECTFUL



COOPERATE



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

What another exciting term. Once again, there are so many highlights. A huge thank you to all of you who have attended the Class Assemblies. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the children's learning and presentation skills. We look forward to more assemblies in the rest of the Summer Term. This term, we have completed the Year 6 SATs assessments. The children and teachers have been preparing for this assessment week all year and it really did show. The children approached each assessment with such maturity and resilience. We are all so proud of their achievements.



We have a new recycling bin by the front gate. Please bag up your unwanted clothes and put them in the bin to raise money for the school.

We look forward to the Summer term which is full of exciting events such as the sports days and the Summer Fayre.

Warmest regards,

N. Edwards

MS N EDWARDS
Head of School

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NURSERY THIS TERM

In Summer 1, we focused on learning about the stories "Dear Zoo," "Teeny Weeny Tadpole," and "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". We explored zoo animals and learned a Dear Zoo song, which the children enjoyed. Each child made their own animal and wrote a letter to the zoo. We also discussed pets as friends and asked the children to bring photos of their pets to share with the class.

The "Teeny-Weeny Tadpole" story taught us about the life cycle of a frog, starting from a little egg. We also discussed the life cycle of a butterfly through "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" story. We were fortunate to have live caterpillars in our class, and we watched them grow and transform through the different stages of their life cycle. This led us to a mini-beast hunt in the garden and field, where the children showed us their knowledge and excitement, especially when they found fat worms or colourful butterflies.

We had an exciting time creating a wormery in our garden and making mini-beast gardens with parents. The children also enjoyed spending time in the garden, playing with water, and cooking in our mud kitchen. They have been working hard to plant lots of vegetables and flowers around the garden and are looking forward to watching them grow.



NURSERY THIS TERM

We have been making a lot of changes in our garden. We're adding a new playdough station to improve motor skills, a new message centre for drawing and writing, and our own waterfall, with the garden being an ongoing project. We can't wait for more to come.



We ended the term with our amazing minibeast display. We are touched and want to extend a huge thank you to all our lovely parents who got involved in this project and helped their children understand the world of minibeasts.



RECEPTION THIS TERM

During this exciting term in Reception, the children had the opportunity to learn about different minibeasts found in the garden and the plants that appear in the Spring season. They witnessed caterpillars turning into butterflies and learned about their life cycle, as well as the life cycle of a frog in our pond. The children planted sunflowers, pumpkins, and beans, as well as growing herbs and many flowers in our garden area. They learned that plants need air, sunlight, warmth, water, and nutrients from the soil to grow, and studied in detail the parts of plants, including roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and petals. We made the most of the beautiful weather and spent lots of time enjoying outdoor activities, such as constructing, playing games, planting, or simply relaxing and reading by the pond.



RECEPTION THIS TERM

Sunflowers Art Exhibition

The children learned about Vincent van Gogh and created famous "Sunflowers" inspired sketches, drawings, paintings, and collages. A highlight of this half-term was the pottery workshop, where the children used the pinch pot technique to make vases and flower pots. At the end of the half-term, all the artwork was displayed in the Art Exhibition, which was a resounding success. Thank you to everyone who attended.



YEAR 1 THIS TERM

This term we have been very busy in Year 1. In Writing this term we have written our own version of *The Way Back Home* by Oliver Jeffers. Then we made some delicious cupcakes and we will be writing instructions on how we made them.

In Maths we have been learning to count in 2's, 5's and 10's and used 100 squares to identify the patterns each one made. We have also been looking at equal groups and working on identifying equal groups. Now we are looking at finding halves and quarters of shapes and quantities. We are using physical objects to help us with identifying halves and quarters. This included having shapes cut into halves and quarters to support our learning.

In Science this term we have been learning all about plants. We have been looking around the school for different types of plants and recognising deciduous and evergreen trees. We have also looked at the parts of a plant and what each part does to help the plant grow. We will also be planting our very own plant to look after and grow at home.



On Thursday 9th May, Year 1 visited Kew Gardens. This term we are learning all about plants. So we went along to Kew Gardens to have a look at the different plants.

We had a session called '*Colours and Seasons*' where we learnt about the different seasons and what happens in each season. As well as the different colours you could see at Kew.

We then looked at some drawings done by Monet and had the chance to draw some of the plants and flowers in front of us using his style of art. Then we had the opportunity to collect some of the petals from the ground to stick onto our picture. We created some fantastic drawings!

We also had the opportunity to look around Kew Gardens, we visited the Palm House, Princess of Wales Conservatory and the Treetop Walk to name a few. It was a fantastic day and the weather was wonderful. We cannot wait to use the knowledge we have gained to write about the four seasons.



YEAR 1 THIS TERM

In History this term we have been looking at the Victorian Era. We learnt all about Queen Victoria and how they lived back then compared to our lives now. We also based our class assembly on the Victorian Era it was great fun learning about the schools in the Victorian Era. To end our unit we had a Victorian Day where we came to school dressed as Victorian children. The classrooms were set up like a Victorian classroom and we did work like the children of that Era. We were writing on black paper to represent chalkboards and we used white pencils/chalk to represent what they used to write with. It was a fantastic day had by all!



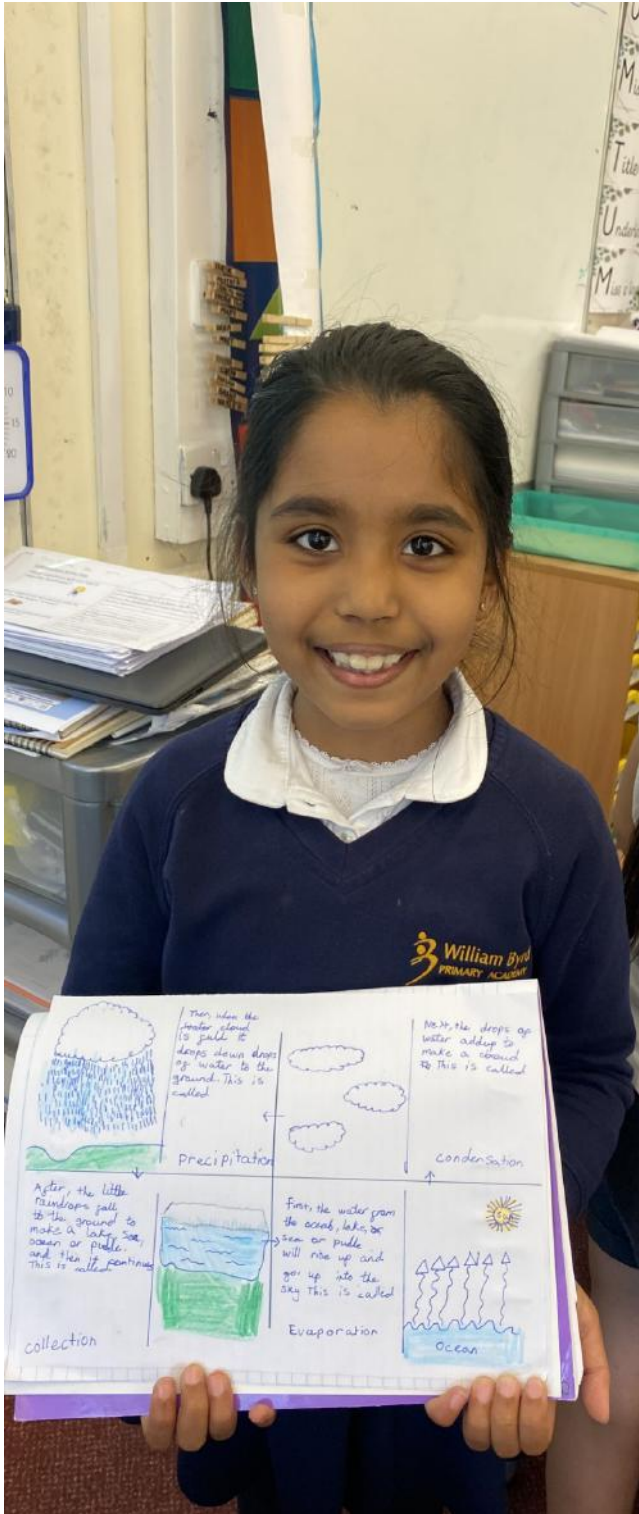
YEAR 2 THIS TERM

Year 2 have been learning about Coastlines, the features of a coastline, how they change over time due to erosion and how this can be prevented. In Geography we carried out a demonstration using sand and water to make a coastline, blocks to represent buildings and a chain of blocks to represent the riprap. When we created waves without the riprap the sand washed away quickly and easily showing us a faster process of erosion, we observed as the waves got stronger the coastline was shrinking and the buildings were washed away or collapsed. When we created waves with a riprap in place we saw that the sand didn't move as much, there was a barrier between the waves and the buildings, they were protected. As a class we were able to identify that we would need a strong riprap in place to prevent or slow down coastal erosion and preserve coastlines. We found this lesson fascinating and had so many fantastic questions to ask.



YEAR 3 THIS TERM

Year 3 has been studying the water cycle in geography. They created beautiful posters to illustrate each stage and also participated in group activities to act out the different stages. In art, children have been honing their botanical art skills through drawing and weaving. In maths, they learned about different units of measure such as cm, m, km, g, kg, ml, and l. Additionally, in writing, they crafted a narrative story about Goldilocks and the Three Bears and wrote a persuasive letter to Ms. Edwards, advocating for something they would like to see implemented in their school.



YEAR 4 THIS TERM

It's been a busy term in Year 4 at William Byrd! We started the term by reading our new text *Anglo-Saxon Boy* by Tony Bradman. This has been a favourite of ours as we already have so much prior learning about the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings from our history unit from the Autumn term. We've really enjoyed reading this text together and learning new facts.

In Writing we also had a history focus, with our text about the Great Plague. This was a fabulous learning opportunity as we were able to compare our life during Covid-19 to those who lived during the Great Plague. Our final write was a diary entry where we had to pretend we were living through the plague and write a diary entry about what we were experiencing. They were an interesting read and we are very proud of what we achieved.

The best part of this term however was PE and our NFL lessons. We've been learning the rules and skills of NFL since the Spring term and we were finally able to put our skills to good use. We completed in the William Byrd NFL competition and came third! We were very happy with our result.



YEAR 5 THIS TERM

This half term Year Five had the enriching opportunity to visit London Zoo to embed and further develop their learning from their previous Science topics 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. We were able to learn about the feeding habits of the otter and mongoose through an educational talk and had the opportunity to learn more about how penguins are adapted to their environment during the penguin show.

We have also been learning about materials and their properties in our new Science unit where we have been able to explore changes in materials through investigations and experiments. During Writing we have worked on our speech writing where we argued against plastic pollution and our narrative writing based on the Greek myth 'Theseus and the Minotaur' which links to our History topic for this half term focusing on what the Ancient Greeks gave up.

Our focus book for Reading has been 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' which has linked to our History topic and our narrative writing unit. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this text and its exciting twists and turns and elements of suspense.



YEAR 6 THIS TERM

This term, we worked very hard and completed our Year 6 SATS! For 3 weeks, we worked on revision of Spelling, Grammar, Maths and Reading. From 13th - 17th May we wrote our tests. Every morning, we had a SATS breakfast and then we tackled the tests. We are so proud of all of the incredible work that the pupils put into these tests- they were incredibly resilient! At the end of it, we celebrated by spending the afternoon at the Cinema, eating popcorn and watching Kung Fu Panda 2.

We've also been perfecting our NFL Flag Football skills and the pupils are getting quite good at Offense and Defense. Our current focus is writing, and we have been writing narratives and formal letters on various topics.

In History, we are finishing our unit on WW2 are excited to consolidate our knowledge on our trip to the Battle of Britain Bunker next term. Next term we are also looking forward to: PGL, Year 6 Production, Year 6 Prom and more!



IN OTHER NEWS

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

This week we celebrated mental health awareness week. The theme is "Movement: moving for our mental health."

One of the most important things we can do to help protect our mental health is regular movement.

Our bodies and our minds are connected, so looking after ourselves physically also helps us prevent problems with our mental health. Exercise releases "feel good" hormones, that reduce feelings of stress and anger. It also helps us feel better about our bodies. It can improve our sleep too. If it involves other people, like being part of a team, a class or group we see regularly, that can also boost our mental health.

Throughout the week the children have been doing various activities to get moving. Today, we held an assembly about how to look after our mental health.

If you are concerned about your child's mental health and would like some support please contact Mrs Houston, elsa@williambyrd.school



Lots of pupils look after someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled, or has a mental health problem or an addiction.

They may help by:

- Shopping, cooking, cleaning
- Managing medicines or money
- Providing personal care
- Helping get people out the house
- Keeping an eye on someone
- Providing emotional support

You might be a young carer or young adult carer and there's support available for you.

Whether you are looking for advice, support, or just someone to talk to, get in touch with the Young Carers School Operational Lead:

Mrs Houston



"We spend most of our time at home or school, so it's vital that schools recognise and understand our needs, wants and aspirations"

A pupil who looks after someone at home

"Having time with other Young Carers is good because they know how I feel."

A pupil who looks after someone at home

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[William Byrd Primary Academy - Young Carers](#)
[Young Carer Services - Carers Trust Hillingdon](#)

IN OTHER NEWS

OUR PTA

Welcome to the Parent Teacher Association (PTA), where we discuss everything fun for our school! We would like to thank all of our parents and carers for all the overwhelming support over our Easter events last term. We were knee-deep in sorting through all your donations. It was amazing! We hope you enjoyed our Easter Fair...what a turnout it was! We raised a total of £736.40.

The winners of the Easter raffle were:

PSD funweek voucher	Edward 1M	ticket 210
Watford FC tickets	Junior R 4T	ticket 279
Bottles	Ahmed 1M	ticket 194
Chocolates	Chunn 1K	ticket 361
Toiletries	Isla 3N	ticket 370
Golf	Ayana 6A	ticket 348
Breakfast at holiday inn	Arisha 4T	ticket 405
Board and glitter brush	Chace 2A	ticket 267
Ted baker toiletry bag	Arisha 4T	ticket 393
Tesco voucher	Ragina 3N	ticket 201
Braclet making set	Adamir 6A	ticket 409
Farm colour and Puzzle cup	Reet 6A	ticket 303
Amnesia hair voucher	Nathaniel 6M	ticket 453
Big shots golf	Delilah-Rose 2S	ticket 244
Airport bowl vouchers	Isra 3N	ticket 312
Goals party voucher	Ragina 3N	ticket 203

We would like to introduce our two new members of the PTA Team:

DAVINA

Hello, I'm Davina. My son is currently in year 3 (23-24 term) at William Byrd and he loves it. PTA has always been something I have been interested in, but this year decided to get stuck in and help. I have joined to support the children's overall experience at school. Namely the events such as Fairs and Discos. These are the parts I'm sure we all enjoyed as part of our education. Making these memories for the children is a key reason to why I joined.



SUZIE

Hello, I'm Suzie. I have 3 children, who are currently in year 2, reception and my youngest will start nursery next year. I can't wait to help plan some amazing things for the children at our school. Please feel free to stop and ask me any question you may have about our events. I will do my best to help. Let's create some amazing memories for our children!



Please remember if you ever see any of the PTA Team around the school and have any questions, please stop us and we would be very happy to help!

IN OTHER NEWS

OUR PTA

The PTA Teams primary focus is to organise and arrange fun activities for our school and community and through doing so, raising money towards doing it again and again and again! At the Christmas Fair, the PTA shared £150 of the funds they raised to put towards Year 6 and are currently planning several events for the upcoming summer term.

Have you heard about our Summer Fair on Saturday 6th July?! It is our very first Fair since 2019 and we are working hard to make it epic one! Do you or anyone you know bake? Cook? Or have a skill you would like to sell and showcase? Let us know! We ask for £10 for a table and you take what you make! So far, we have food, drinks, henna, face painting, cakes and lots more! If you would like to join in or volunteer, please email us at: PTA@williambyrd.school

We are also offering advertising space in our Summer Fair brochure. If interested, email PTA@williambyrd.school

REMEMBER TO SPREAD THE WORD!

Have you seen our two notice boards located by the Year 3 and Year 6 gates? These notice boards will always list upcoming events for the current term. Please keep a look out!

From all of us here on the PTA Team, we would like to thank you for your continued support and cannot wait to see you all in the Summer Term. Be safe and Be happy!





William Byrd
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Come and join us on

SPORTS DAY

2024

Monday 8 July

Year 1 | 9am - 10.30am

Year 2 | 10.30am - 12pm

Year 3 | 1.30pm - 3pm

Tuesday 9 July

Year 4 | 9am - 10.30am

Year 5 | 10.30am - 12pm

Year 6 | 1.30pm - 3pm

Wednesday 10 July

Reception | 9.30am - 11am



MIDDLESEX
LEARNING
PARTNERSHIP



KEY DATES

JUNE	
EVENT	DATE
Start of Summer 2	Monday 3 June
Year 2 Fire Safety Workshop	Tuesday 4 June
Parent/Carer The Mental Service Team Workshop	Tuesday 4 June
Empathy Day	Wednesday 5 June
Year 5 Fire Safety Workshop	Wednesday 5 June
Multicultural Day (£1 donation non-uniform day)	Thursday 6 June
Year 5 Camping Trip Meeting for Parents/Carers	Friday 7 June
Year 6 PGL Trip	Friday 7 June - Monday 10 June
Olympian In	Wednesday 12 June
Year 3 Parent/Carer Sleepover Meeting	Wednesday 12 June at 3.30pm
Class Photos	Thursday 13 June
Rosen Class Assembly	Thursday 13 June at 2.45pm
Mufti Day (Bottle donation non-uniform day)	Friday 14 June
Nursery Father's Day (Superhero Day)	Friday 14 June
Parent/Carer Workshop Child Exploitation, Grooming & County Lines	Friday 14 June at 2pm
Year 5 Camping Trip (Selected children only)	Monday 17 June
Year 5 Trip to Lido	Monday 17 June
Year 6 Parent/Carer Transition Meeting with Brilliant Parents	Wednesday 19 June at 2.30pm
Donaldson Class Assembly	Wednesday 19 June at 2.45pm
Pride Afternoon	Thursday 20 June at 2.00pm
Jeffers Class Assembly	Thursday 20 June at 2.45pm
Year 6 Uxbridge Bunker Trip	Friday 21 June
Parent/Carer Workshop on Internet Safety	Friday 21 June at 2pm
Eid Celebration Day	Friday 21 June
Year 4 Trip to Chessington	Monday 24 June
Year 2 Trip to Odds Farm	Wednesday 26 June
Mufti Day (Donation of savoury items non-uniform day)	Friday 28 June
Year 3 Sleepover	Friday 28 June

KEY DATES

JULY	
EVENT	DATE
Transition Day	Tuesday 2 July
Multiplication Masters Competition - Dress as a Rock Star	Friday 5 July
Summer Fair	Saturday 6 July at 11am - 3pm
Sports Day (Y1-Y3)	Monday 8 July
Sports Day (Y4-Y6)	Tuesday 9 July
Reception Sports Day	Wednesday 10 July
Year 6 Production to Parents & Carers	Thursday 11 July at 7pm
Sports Day (Nursery)	Friday 12 July
Clubs Finish	Friday 12 July
Year 6 Production to Parents and Carers	Friday 12 July at 1.30pm
Nursery Family Picnic	Wednesday 17 July
Year 6 Prom	Wednesday 17 July
Nursery Last Day	Thursday 18 July
Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Friday 19 July at 9am - 10.30am
Last Day of Summer Term	Friday 19 July at 1pm

WILLIAM BYRD PRIMARY ACADEMY

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MIDDLESEX LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

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